

To ensure the continued health and safety of medical staff and patients, Techno-Aide provides the following cleaning & care recommendations for all protective apparel items. The recommendations provided within are meant to be a guideline based on manufacturing specifications and best practices. All recommendations are intended to increase safety by decreasing the risk of cross-contamination and extending the life of all applicable protective garments. In order to be eligible for Techno-Aide's manufacturer warranty, the following guidelines must be adhered to.

- 1) Initial Testing
- 2) Cleaning & Care
- 3) Storage
- 4) Inspections
- 5) Disposal

Initial Testing

In order to be eligible for Techno-Aide's limited manufacturer warranty, all fabric-based protective apparel containing lead, or lead equivalent material, must be inspected upon receipt by the customer before being put into service or used in any non-testing imaging environment. Techno-Aide requires radiographs and/or x-ray images of all applicable fabric-based apparel containing lead, or lead equivalent material, be taken and documented within 10 business days upon receipt of the initial delivery. These images must be documented and notated with accurate and qualifying dates and must include the appropriate Techno-Aide part numbers with each applicable image in the event of a manufacturing anomaly or defect.

Cleaning & Care

Protective garments, even those containing lead or lead equivalent media, require regular preventative maintenance and care in order to fully extend the life of the product. Techno-Aide recommends cleaning protective garments between uses and anytime there is direct contact with patients and/or medical staff. The following cleaning recommendations should be followed as best as possible within facility guidelines and/or governing requirements.

- 1) **“Do’s” for Cleaning Apparel**
 - a. Clean and disinfect protective garments on a regular basis. It is recommended that facilities establish and strictly adhere to a cleaning and care schedule for all protective garments.
 - b. To clean: Dampen a non-abrasive clean cotton cloth, microfiber cloth, disposable cleaning towel, soft bristled brush, or otherwise preapproved porous sheet with cold or room temperature water and a mild soap, detergent, or other approved cleaning substances such as: *Clorox hydrogen peroxide disinfectant, 409 with Anti-Bacterial properties, Revolution Scrubbles Apron Cleaner, Sani-Cloth AF3 Wipes, Rescue cleaning agents, and Sentinel II Disinfectant.*

- c. Wipe clean entire garment surface despite lack of any visible contamination or uncleanness as harmful micro-bacteria may not be apparent.
- d. Rinse disinfected areas thoroughly with a separate dampened cotton cloth, microfiber cloth, disposable cleaning towel, or otherwise preapproved porous sheet. Be sure to remove all cleaning solution entirely from garment.
- e. Hang or lay garment flat in an undisturbed environment without creases to allow proper drying.

2) “Do Not’s” for Cleaning Apparel

- a. Do not allow garments to go without regular cleaning and preventative maintenance.
- b. Do not machine launder, autoclave, or dry-clean.
- c. Do not use abrasive and caustic chemicals and/or cleaners such as: *bleach, bleach alternative, petroleum based cleaners, chlorinated solvents, ether, and aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbons.*
- d. Do not allow cleaning solutions to pool or sit longer than recommended by the original manufacturer.
- e. Do not soak or submerge any protective apparel item in either water or chemical solutions for any length of time.
- f. Do not store garments folded and/or creased or allow to sit folded and/or creased while drying.

Storage

Properly storing protective garments is a critical way to maintain the integrity of any garment and helps ensure the continued safety of patients and medical staff. The following storage recommendations should be followed as best as possible within facility guidelines and/or governing requirements.

1) “Do’s” for Apparel Storage

- a. Techno-Aide recommends all protective garments be safely hung on a specialty designed apron/garment storage rack, hanger, or equivalent storage unit.
- b. Store garments in a cool and dry location.
- c. Always close and secure any closures a protective garment may have when storing between use.
- d. If garments are unable to be hung, ensure all garments are stored flat and uncreased in a low-traffic and undisturbed area.

2) “Do Not’s” for Apparel Storage

- a. Do not store garments in direct sunlight.
- b. Do not allow garments to be creased or sit folded for an extended period of time.
- c. Do not store with closures hanging or resting loosely and unsecured.
- d. If garments are unable to be hung, do not stack more than three garments of equal size when storing flat.

Inspections

Techno-Aide recommends regularly inspecting protective garments, at minimum once a year, via radiographs and/or x-ray images to ensure long-term performance and maintain medical staff and patient safety. Frequent inspections can identify any issues quicker and help maintain compliance and safety standards. Techno-Aide recommends considering replacements of protective garments every 18-24 months based on the historical industry use and the average levels of wear and tear.

Disposal

Any product that contains lead must be disposed of properly and adhere to local and federal safety guidelines. Please consult directly with the proper authorities regarding local regulations and requirements governing your facility. Non-lead (lead equivalent) materials, such as Techno-Aide's Super-Lite Lead-Free media are safe to dispose of via your regular trash disposal service.